

## South Carolina State Certification Process

This document is to give you some information on gaining your SC EMT certification. For the purposes of this document, the term AEMT≡ will apply to all levels of EMTs (Basic, Intermediate & Paramedic). **You may NOT function as an EMT in SC until you have been properly certified / re-certified as a South Carolina EMT**

### **Initial SC EMT Certification:**

To be **initially** certified at any level **for the first time** in SC, the candidate must complete one of the following two (2) processes;

#### 1) SC Approved EMT Programs

- Successfully complete the appropriate SC approved EMT training program. Completion of the program is also dependant upon the candidate meeting all entrance requirements.
- Successfully pass the appropriate level Nationally Registry examination.
- Submit a properly completed SC *Certificate Application* (White, Green or Blue) card, to include all required information & signatures, along with a copy of a SC approved BLS credential (Paramedic candidates must also submit a copy of a SC approved ACLS credential).

#### 2) Reciprocity

- Candidate must meet all requirements to satisfy eligibility for reciprocity and submit a properly completed SC reciprocity application to include all required documentation. Reciprocity packets may be downloaded from the SC DHEC EMS website ([scdhec.net/hr/ems](http://scdhec.net/hr/ems)).
- If the candidate meets the qualifications to receive reciprocity, the SC DHEC Division of EMS will send the candidate the appropriate SC *Certificate Application* (White, Green or Blue) card, which the candidate must complete with all required information & signatures, along with a copy of a SC approved BLS credential (Paramedic candidates must also submit a copy of a SC approved ACLS credential).

## **Re-certification of a SC EMT Certification:**

In order for a candidate to **re-certify** their SC EMT certification, candidates must successfully complete one of the four (4) options for re-certification. This information is also available on the SC DHEC EMS website ([scdhec.net/hr/ems](http://scdhec.net/hr/ems)).

Once all required information is received by the SC DHEC Division of EMS, the candidate will automatically receive their initial SC EMT certification or their re-certification as a SC EMT. This process will take one to two weeks from the time all documentation is received.

## **Concerning National Registry Examinations:**

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (for more information see: [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)) will forward a copy of all examination results, to the SC DHEC Division of EMS, of every EMT candidate who tested the National Registry EMT examination within the borders of SC\*.

\*Those candidates who choose to test or re-test the National Registry EMT examination in another state must forward a copy of their test results to the SC DHEC Division of EMS.

The SC DHEC Division of EMS receives these results directly from the National Registry of EMTs approximately ten (10) to twelve (12) work days **after** the candidate has received their copy in the mail.

The SC certification process will then take up to another ten (10) to twelve (12) work days (depending upon the work load of the certification staff) to match all the grades up with each candidates= *Certificate Application* (White, Green or Blue) card and to check for all required documentation. The candidate should automatically receive their SC state EMT certification in the mail approximately four (4) to five (5) weeks after they have received their National Registry credential.

If you have not received your SC state EMT certification within five (5) weeks of receiving your National Registry credential, please call the SC DHEC Division of EMS at (803) 545-4204 and ask to speak to Don Whiteley and inquire as to what required documentation in your file is missing in order for you to receive your SC state EMT certification.

**Important Note:** In all reality you should receive your SC state EMT certification well before the five (5) week window. The SC state EMS office processes approximately 100 to 200 certifications each month. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

## **Concerning SC State Refresher ARegistry-Like≅ Examinations:**

SC EMT-Intermediate **Refresher** Candidates and SC EMT-Paramedic **Refresher** Candidates may choose to take the SC state refresher Aregistry-like≅ certification examination for their recertification in lieu of the National Registry Examination. However, if the candidate chooses to take the National Registry examination for their recertification examination, they void their option to test the SC state refresher, Aregistry-like≅ examination at the same level for which they are attempting recertification.

All SC state refresher Aregistry-like≅ examination results are graded in-house. Results are then mailed to the candidate within three (3) weeks of their examination attempt. If the candidate is successful in the examination and all required documentation has been received, the candidate will automatically receive their SC state EMT re-certification in the mail within three (3) weeks of successfully passing the examination.

If you have not received your SC state EMT re-certification within three (3) weeks of passing the SC state refresher Aregistry-like≅ examination, please call the SC DHEC Division of EMS at (803) 545-4204 and ask to speak to Don Whiteley and inquire as to what required documentation in your file is missing in order for you to receive your SC state EMT re-certification.

## **Important Summary Information:**

All candidates who desire to work as an EMT in South Carolina **MUST** be SC state certified. Once candidates receive their SC state certification, SC EMS Regulation 61-7 requires the SC EMT to have their SC EMT certification pocket card with them at all times in which they function as an EMT in SC.

## **Certificate Applications:**

Each candidate for certification as an EMT in South Carolina must have a properly completed *Certificate Application* on file. These 6 x 9 Awhite, green or blue≅ cards are provided to each candidate on the first night of an EMT course (initial or refresher). In the case of reciprocity candidates, the SC state EMS office will provide the candidate with the appropriate application card upon meeting all requirements for reciprocity.

**Intermediate & Paramedic** candidates must have the provider & medical control endorsements signed prior to receiving certification / re-certification in South Carolina. The **Administrative Director** of the SC Licensed Provider listed on line 4 of the card must sign the provider=s endorsement. The **Medical Control Physician** of the SC Licensed Provider listed on line 4 of the card must sign the medical control=s endorsement. The names of those individuals must match the names on file in the SC DHEC Office of EMS.